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C O N F I D E N T I A L DJIBOUTI 000713

SIPDIS

STATE FOR IO AND AF
LONDON/PARIS FOR AFRICA WATCHERS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/27/2015
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KUNR](#) [DJ](#) [UNSC](#) [UNGA](#)
SUBJECT: UNSC REFORM: DEMARCHE TO DJIBOUTI'S FM ON UN REFORM
REF: SECSTATE 137602

Classified By: AMBASSADOR MARGUERITA D. RAGSDALE.
REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D).

11. (C) As instructed reftel, Ambassador conveyed 7/26 to Djibouti's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mahmoud Ali Yousuf, the U.S. position on the G-4 framework resolution on expanding the United Nations Security Council. She went through reftel points with the Minister and urged Djibouti to oppose the resolution. She noted that the U.S. did not support a vote on any UNSC resolution at this time. Should the resolution come to a vote, she asked that Djibouti vote against it or abstain.

12. (C) The Minister responded that he was aware of U.S. opposition to the G-4 framework resolution and said Djibouti "takes note of the American position." He stated that he could not provide to the U.S. a Djiboutian position at this point, but that a decision would be made in consultation with others. He observed that Djibouti, a small country, has been under enormous pressure on this issue from G-4 members -- through visits of delegations, through messages, through phone calls -- and from "three" camps within the African Union. He said he doubted the G-4 would be able to muster the 128 votes needed in the General Assembly to amend the UN Charter.

13. (C) Speaking personally, Yousuf said he believes that any reform of this kind would need to be taken in context with overall U.N. reforms. At the same time, he added, it would be unrealistic for member nations to think that they can move ahead on issues broadly if they do not have the support of the United States. Yousuf also expressed doubt reforms such as these can move forward rapidly in the U.N.'s autumn session. He expressed the belief that more time will be needed for their maturity because of existing gaps in positions among member states.

14. (C) We hope to be able to convey a final Djibouti position on the G-4 proposal in advance of any vote on this resolution.
RAGSDALE